Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /034 W

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R 201655Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 806 INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 0387

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR GB MO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GABONESE PRESIDENT AL-HAJ OMAR BONGO TO MOROCCO

REF: LIBREVILLE 0072

1. BONGO VISITED RABAT JANUARY 17-19, FOLLOWING A ONE DAY STOPOVER IN MAURITANIA. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER MARTIN BONGO AND PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR BENSIMA OKIAS. AFTER A ONE HOUR PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH KING HASSAN II ON JANUARY 18, BONGO AND THE KING JOINTLY CHAIRED A WORKING SESSION BETWEEN GABONESE DELEGATION AND HIGH GOM OFFICIALS WHICH REPORTEDLY ADDRESSED BILATERAL COOPERATION, THE ARAB-AFRO SUMMIT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN CAIRO IN MARCH, AND PARTICIPATION OF MOROCCAN BUSINESSMEN IN DEVELOPING THE GABONESE ECONOMY. ON DEPARTURE, BONGO SAID COOPERATION WAS GOING VERY WELL.

2. COMMENT: GABON HAS BEEN ONE OF MOROCCO'S CLOSEST AFRICAN FRIENDS, AND GOM UNDOUBTEDLY LOOKS TO BONGO TO BE HELPFUL IN ANY FUTURE OAU DISCUSSIONS ON SAHARA ISSUE. DIPLOMATIC SPECULATION IN RABAT WAS THAT BONGO MIGHT GO ON TO ALGIERS TO TRY TO HEAD OFF ANY POTENTIAL DISRUPTION STEMMING FROM SAHARA CONFIDENTIAL

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ISSUE AT THE UPCOMING BONGO-HOSTED OAU SUMMIT. HOWEVER, LOCAL MEDIA ANNOUNCED ON HIS DEPARTURE THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO LIBREVILLE.

MOFFAT

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	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
INN					

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Subject: VISIT OF GABONESE PRESIDENT AL-HAJ OMAR BONGO TO MOROCCO

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, MO, GB, (AL-HAJ OMAR BONGO)

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